NOVA SCOTIA

LEGAL AID COMMISSION

Twenty-Third Annual Report 1999/2000

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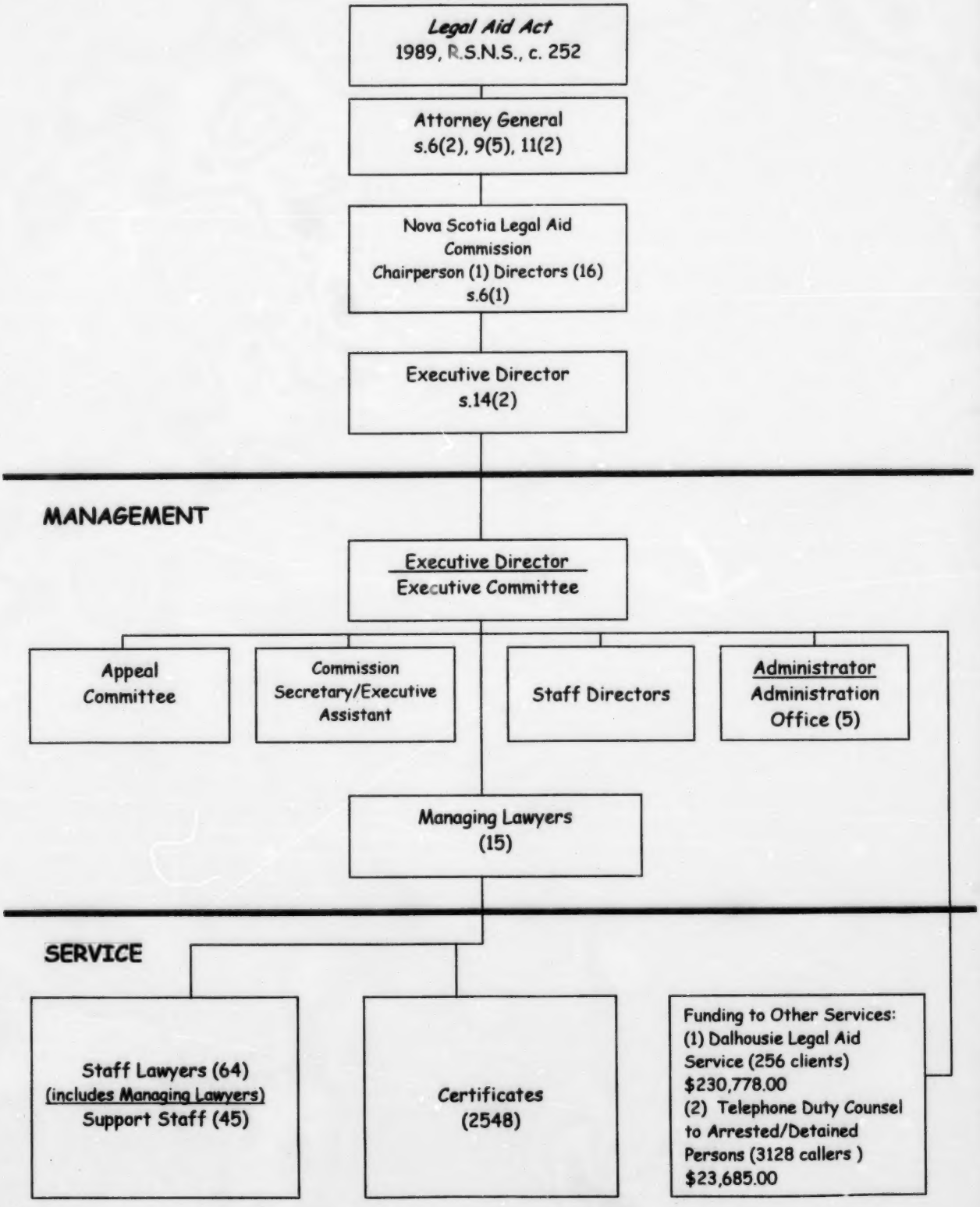
1999/2000 NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION STRUCTURE

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY



NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS OF MARCH 31, 2000

Name	Location	Term Expires	Representing
Janice E. Beaton	Halifax	June 2, 2000	Bar Society
M. Joseph Rizzetto	Sydney	October 5, 2001	Bar Society
M. Louise Campbell	Guysborough	December 19, 2001	Bar Society
David F. Curtis, Q.C.(Vice-Chair)	Truro	December 19, 2001	Bar Society
Michael A. Lambert	Halifax	December 19, 2001	Bar Society
Christopher Manning	Kentville	December 19, 2001	Bar Society
Glen G. McDougall (Chair)	Sydney	January 14, 2002	Justice
Heidi Marshall	Sydney	January 14, 2002	Justice
Angus E. Schurman	Halifax	January 13, 2003	Bar Society
Clarence Guest	Halifax	-	Public Service
Shulamith Medjuck	Halifax	-	Public Service
Vacant	-	-	Justice
Vacant	-	-	Justice
Vacant	-	-	Justice
Vacant	-	-	Justice
Vacant	-	-	Justice
Vacant	-	-	Justice

STANDING COMMITTEES AS OF MARCH 31, 2000

APPEAL

Panel A

Angus E. Schurman	Chair
M. Louise Campbell	

Panel B

Michael A. Lambert	Chair
Janice E. Beaton	

BUDGET

David F. Curtis, Q.C.	Chair
Clarence Guest	
Shulamith Medjuck	
Angus E. Schurman	
Glen G. McDougall (Chairman)	
T. Gerard Lukeman (Executive Director)	
Anne Malick, Q.C. (Director)	
Walter I. Yeadon (Director)	
R. Gordon Murray, Q.C.	
Resource - David J. Slaunwhite (Administrator)	

EXECUTIVE

Glen G. McDougall (Chairman)	Chair
R. Gordon Murray, Q.C.	
T. Gerard Lukeman (Executive Director)	
Walter I. Yeadon (Director)	
Anne Malick, Q.C. (Director)	
Resource - David J. Slaunwhite (Administrator)	
Resource – Lisa Stokkeskog (Commission Secretary)	

PLANNING & POLICY

Michael A. Lambert	Chair
David F. Curtis, Q.C. (Vice-Chairman)	
Glen G. McDougall (Chairman)	
Resource - Anne Malick, Q.C. (Director)	

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Glen G. McDougall (Chairman)	Chair
David F. Curtis, Q.C. (Vice-Chairman)	
Angus E. Schurman	
Michael A. Lambert	
Christopher Manning	
Resource - Walter I. Yeadon (Director)	

OFFICE LOCATIONS

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NSLA STAFF COMPLEMENT AS OF MARCH 31, 2000

OFFICE	Exec. Dir.	Staff Dir.	Lawyers	Admin. Support	Clerical	Admini-strator	Prison Liaison	Com-munity Worker	Library	MIS	Article Clerks	Total
Administration	1	1		4		1			1	1		9
Amherst			2		2.6		1					5.6
Annapolis Royal			2		1.6							3.6
Antigonish			4		3							7
Bridgewater			4		3							7
Dartmouth			9		5							14
Hal - South			10		6						1	17
Hal - North			6		5			1				12
Kentville			4		3							7
New Glasgow			4		3							7
Sydney			10		6							16
Truro		1	2		2.6							5.6
Windsor			2		1.6							3.6
Yarmouth			3		2.6							5.6
Litigation			2									2
TOTALS	1	2	64	4	45	1	1	1	1	1	1	122

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The writing of this Report is an occasion to review the events of the year just completed. From my review, I can report that Legal Aid in Nova Scotia is continuing to be met with challenges and that a solid team is in place to meet these challenges.

I am sure the reader will recall the dire warnings of catastrophe related to the calendar rollover to the year 2000 in computer systems. Our disaster plans were not needed to be put into play, as our preparations for the date change were successful with the result that all our computer systems continued to function in the year 2000.

The Commission is engaged in a changeover from the computer system and software purchased in 1991. In the intervening 9 years, the technology has advanced to the point where our UNIX™ computer environment is quite dated. The Commission will need to make significant investment in new hardware, software and training in the next two years as we complete the rollover from our current system to one that is based on a personal computer environment.

The Commission, in the current year, has undertaken these steps with respect to computer issues:

(a) We have expanded the personal computer system in the Administration Office with all staff in that office now operating in a personal computer environment. This required investment in a server that has the capacity for future growth. At the same time, we continue to use the old system for case management information and as the Certificate tracker.

(b) All offices now have access to Quicklaw™, an online legal research tool. The use of Quicklaw™ by our staff is increasing as staff training is made available.

(c) Larger offices, with a higher demand for access to the personal computer put in place last year, have had personal computers added to meet the demand for increased access to online legal research tools.

(d) We are gradually replacing our old printers as they wear out with new laser printers that are fully compatible with a personal computer environment as well as able to work in our current UNIX™ environment.

(e) Currently our Certificate tracker program operates in our UNIX™ environment. We have entered into a contract with a private company to supply new personal computer compatible software to perform the Certificate tracker program functions. This new software will make our Certificate tracker program compatible with our current personal computer based accounting software so that the appropriate Certificate financial information can be exported directly from the Certificate tracker system to the accounting system.

Given the inherent difficulties in moving from a UNIX™ environment to a personal computer environment, the Commission is following an appropriate process of making the transition in stages. The speed of the transition is also subject to the financial commitments the Commission is able to make to the changeover. In time, I believe a successful transition will be completed with a minimum of disruption to the staff in their work.

I am pleased to report that this year has seen the Commission make progress on a number of issues that relate to the proper administration of our organization:

(a) Performance evaluations of our staff lawyers have now been completed for the second year. The format has been adapted to reflect concerns of the staff as expressed after the earlier evaluations. The evaluation process was uneventful this year and is now an established routine.

(b) A Position Description for support staff was completed this year as part of the process to establish a format for the performance evaluation of those staff. We expect to complete this process in the upcoming year so that formal performance evaluations for support staff will occur on a regular basis.

(c) A Position Description for Managing Lawyers was completed this year and the Commission, by resolution, approved an honorarium to recognize, to some extent, the burden of the office administration duties accepted by Managing Lawyers in addition to the demands on their time as full-time staff lawyers. I congratulate the Commission in taking this step to formally recognize the efforts of the Managing Lawyers who are responsible for the day-to-day operation of their respective offices.

(d) An Administration Staff Review Committee was struck with a mandate to

review the operations of the Administration Office, particularly from an operational point-of-view. This has resulted in recommendations for improvements that should be considered. An implementation schedule for such changes will be a project for the upcoming year.

(e) Effective April 1999, our part-time staff director, Walter I. "Terry" Yeadon agreed to devote his energies to Administration duties on a full-time basis. It is with great pleasure that I welcome Terry to his new duties. He carries responsibility for the Appeal Committee, and acts as Case Review Director, and Director Responsible for Responding to Requests Made Pursuant to the ***Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act***. He continues with his other duties as a Director and member of the Executive Committee. His wise advice and willingness to take on new tasks is of the utmost importance to me in my role as Executive Director. It is a measure of the increasing demands placed on the Commission's Administration Office that Terry's position as staff Director had to be expanded from part-time to full-time.

(f) During November 1999, the Commission became subject to the ***Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act***.

(g) A Policy Manual was prepared by the Administration Office and distributed to all Commission offices effective January 1st, 2000. This Manual reduces to writing various employment policies that were previously unavailable to staff in any clear format. This Manual is a work in progress and will be expanded in the future.

(h) During this year we were notified that the Office of the Auditor General for Nova Scotia would no longer be doing the audit of our Trust Account and of our Provincial claim to the Federal Government for cost-sharing of legal aid services under the terms of the Criminal and Young Offender Legal Aid Agreement. We hired the firm of Grant Thornton as our external auditor for both these matters. This is a new experience for the Commission to have auditors other than the Office of the Auditor General. The Office of the Auditor General continues to audit our Financial Statements as required by law. I am pleased to report that we have an excellent working relationship with both sets of auditors.

(i) We have prepared the first review of our Three-Year Business Plan for submission to Government. Our Plan met with favourable comment by the Government. We believe our Plan is a valuable resource in ensuring the Government is fully aware of the Commission's goals to improve the delivery of legal aid services in Nova Scotia. Our Business Plan maybe easily referenced by the Government when funding decisions are made.

(j) A Support Staff Meeting was held in Halifax on May 28, 1999. While not held on a regular basis, these are valuable to the Administration in providing training and information to the support staff and also as a forum for support staff to share their concerns with each other and with the Administration. In conjunction with this meeting, 12 support staff with over 20 years of service to the clients of Nova Scotia Legal Aid were recognized:

Over 25 years:
Vicki L. Randall (Amherst)
Judith C. Dickson (New Glasgow)
Linda A. Joudrey (Bridgewater)
David Slaunwhite (Administration)

Over 20 years:
Verna Rafuse-Forbes (Kentville)
Jane K. Carroll (Sydney)
Diane M. Lewis (Sydney)
Kathryn L. MacIntyre (Antigonish)
Gail P. Surette (Yarmouth)
Laurie Dawn Smith (Dartmouth)
Judith M. Verge (Bridgewater)
Jacqueline McIntyre (Sydney)

As well, at the Staff Lawyer Meeting in September 1999, H. Bruce Holton, Managing Lawyer of the New Glasgow Office, was recognized for over 25 years of service with Legal Aid.

I should also note that during this fiscal year, the newly elected government in Nova Scotia initiated a Program Analysis and Government Inventory of Programs. This was designed to eliminate programs that are duplications and to identify core services that will continue to receive the support of the Government. The Commission

participated in this exercise by providing information as requested by the Government. This was an initial step in the budgetary process during the current fiscal year leading up to the Government fixing the funding for Legal Aid in Nova Scotia for the next fiscal year.

The Commission appreciates the opportunities provided to it to make its case for appropriate funding so as to be able to deliver legal services to the poor in Nova Scotia.

May I also express my personal thanks to the Commission Chair, Glen G. McDougall, and all members of the Commission for their strong support in the operation of our legal aid plan.

In conclusion, while proper funding for Legal Aid is of the utmost importance in having a fair and accessible system of justice of which all Nova Scotians can be proud; it is to the women and men, who deliver the legal aid services, that we offer our sincere appreciation for all that they do on a daily basis for clients of Legal Aid.

T. Gerard Lukeman,
Executive Director

MANDATE

The mandate of the Nova Scotia Legal Commission, in so far as Government funding permits, is:

(a) To deliver quality legal representation to qualified applicants with priority for matters involving the liberty and civil rights of individual clients and for matters involving the integrity and protection of an individual's family.

(b) such other legal services as Government may contract with the Commission to provide to individuals or groups.

NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION

FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY TABLE

Legal Aid may be granted to a person on Social Assistance or in an equivalent financial position where there is merit in providing legal assistance in certain areas of family/civil and criminal law.

A person is in a position equivalent to that of someone on Social Assistance when the gross monthly income of the person and his/her spouse, including common-law spouse, is less than the amount set out below. (Child Tax Credit is not counted in income) and the person's monthly expenses for shelter, food, miscellaneous, transportation and the cost of the legal service requested is greater than the amount set out below. (Maximum allowance for transportation is $18.00)

HOUSEHOLD	GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	HOUSEHOLD	GROSS MONTHLY INCOME
One Adult	$1067.00	Two Adults	$1424.00
and 1 Child	$1416.00	and 1 Child	$1708.00
and 2 Children	$1700.00	and 2 Children	$1932.00
and 3 Children	$1924.00	and 3 Children	$2156.00
and 4 Children	$2148.00	and 4 Children	$2380.00
and 5 Children	$2372.00	and 5 Children	$2604.00
and 6 Children	$2596.00	and 6 Children	$2828.00
and 7 Children	$2820.00	and 7 Children	$3052.00

Matters Completed

From April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000 with Comparative

Disposition	1999/2000	1998/1999	Change	
Full Service				
Staff Lawyers	12,509	12,681	(172)	-1.4%
Private Lawyers	2,548	2,851	(303)	-10.6%
Dalhousie Legal Aid	256	224	32	14.3%
Full Service	**15,313**	**15,756**	**(443)**	**-2.8%**
Summary Service				
Reciprocal-Outgoing	71	56	15	26.8%
Staff Duty Counsel	275	180	95	52.8%
Cells Duty Counsel	1,148	1,012	136	13.4%
Telephone Duty Counsel	3,128	3,091	37	1.2%
Advice	1,577	1,558	19	1.2%
Summary Service	**6,199**	**5,897**	**302**	**5.1%**
Accepted Applications	**21,512**	**21,653**	**(141)**	**-0.7%**
Rejected Applications	**2,173**	**1,949**	**224**	**11.5%**
Grand Total	**23,685**	**23,602**	**83**	**0.4%**

Matters Completed by Area of Law

From April, 1 1999 to March 31, 2000

Disposition	Criminal Adult	Criminal Y. O.	Provincial	Family	Civil	Total	%
Full Service							
Staff Lawyers	6,321	1,916	34	4,064	174	12,509	52.8%
Private Lawyers	389	218	0	1,426	15	2,548	10.8%
Dalhousie Legal Aid	0	47	0	82	127	256	1.1%
Full Service	**7,210**	**2,181**	**34**	**5,572**	**316**	**15,313**	**64.7%**
Summary Service							
Reciprocal - Outgoing	6	1	0	62	2	71	0.3%
Staff Duty Counsel	231	34	1	9	0	275	1.2%
Cells Duty Counsel	1,088	60	0	0	0	1,148	4.8%
Telephone Duty Counsel	2,750	378	0	0	0	3,128	13.2%
Advice	414	46	32	927	158	1,577	6.7%
Summary Service	**4,489**	**519**	**33**	**998**	**160**	**6,199**	**26.2%**
Accepted Applications	**11,699**	**2,700**	**67**	**6,570**	**476**	**21,512**	**90.8%**
Rejected Applications	**740**	**33**	**65**	**1,147**	**188**	**2,173**	**9.2%**
Grand Total	**12,439**	**2,733**	**132**	**7,717**	**664**	**23,685**	**100.0%**
Percent	**52.5%**	**11.5%**	**0.6%**	**32.6%**	**2.8%**	**100.0%**	

Number of Matters Completed

From April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000

Full Service Sittings	AM	[illegible]	AT	SW	DR	[illegible] North	[illegible] South	KE	NA	SP	TH	WE	YA	[illegible] Total	[illegible] Sittings	Total
Criminal Adult																
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	15	0
Attempted murder	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	6	0	0
Robbery	4	2	1	5	29	9	23	1	1	5	2	1	0	83	29	0
Sexual assault	14	11	6	9	15	8	17	9	5	14	7	7	8	130	35	0
Sexual abuse	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
Aggravated assault	3	3	8	3	32	52	46	8	12	20	38	13	5	243	0	0
Assault	49	78	32	60	163	42	193	97	61	184	26	46	32	1,063	296	0
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Abduction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	7	0	0	1	18	5	0
Weapons/Explosives	6	4	2	7	14	15	18	3	4	23	8	8	4	116	9	0
Break & Enter	30	18	12	41	54	56	61	26	31	57	21	37	14	458	95	0
Fraud/False pretence	3	4	10	18	66	24	73	7	30	21	20	34	7	317	20	0
Theft	32	28	12	41	235	129	270	50	40	99	55	32	25	1,048	84	0
Possession of stolen property	9	5	4	7	17	18	18	8	6	23	14	8	4	141	0	0
Property damage/Mischief	6	15	7	7	30	10	27	13	8	28	12	21	9	193	5	0
Prostitution	0	0	1	0	28	0	30	0	0	1	0	0	0	60	4	0
Gaming/Betting	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Public order offence	3	0	2	1	1	30	12	13	1	8	2	4	0	77	4	0
Administration of justice	8	0	5	12	2	15	10	8	1	26	9	7	0	103	11	0
Traffic/Import of drugs	4	9	2	12	39	25	64	14	4	11	21	9	3	217	0	0
Possession of drugs	10	30	10	11	14	23	9	12	18	17	6	7	2	169	105	0
C.C. Motor vehicle offence	1	9	8	10	9	16	3	5	6	13	3	13	3	99	5	0
Impaired driving	11	9	17	27	26	26	14	17	15	69	35	24	9	299	6	0
Forgery/Uttering	1	4	4	4	4	1	3	6	0	2	8	1	2	40	11	0
Criminal negligence	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	5	4	0
Uttering threats	7	10	20	11	60	13	65	10	31	50	3	14	12	306	0	0
Conspiracy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peace Bond	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	1	0
Breach of probation/Order variation	16	34	25	58	101	19	72	89	78	116	33	46	29	716	0	0
Appeal	2	4	1	0	2	0	2	2	0	3	1	0	0	17	1	0
Other	9	29	6	14	63	63	51	8	16	33	30	33	26	381	134	0
Criminal Adult Total	229	307	196	362	1,011	598	1,086	409	371	834	357	365	196	6,321	889	0

Number of Matters Completed

From April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000

Full Service Matters	AR	AR	RT	RT	RP	YRP Female	YRP Male	SR	SR	SY	TR	YR	YS	Total	Total	Total
Criminal Young Offender																
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Attempted murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	1	1	0	0	9	3	24	1	1	4	0	0	1	45	17	2
Sexual assault	0	1	5	1	6	1	3	0	3	5	2	0	4	31	8	0
Sexual abuse	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0
Aggravated assault	0	0	2	0	11	5	5	1	1	1	12	6	0	44	0	0
Assault	14	3	3	8	38	6	60	36	10	28	12	8	9	235	59	4
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Abduction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	1	1	9	3	0
Weapons/Explosives	1	0	0	2	10	1	3	2	2	1	1	4	1	28	3	0
Break & Enter	12	3	4	26	35	17	46	21	17	28	19	29	5	262	51	5
Fraud/False pretence	3	0	1	3	2	1	6	1	0	1	2	2	1	23	2	0
Theft	7	1	15	22	61	34	91	21	25	37	11	18	11	354	32	7
Possession of stolen property	2	0	1	2	6	5	11	4	4	8	1	6	2	52	0	0
Property damage/Mischief	6	0	4	13	22	4	42	14	6	7	3	8	6	135	1	0
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Gaming/Betting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public order offence	0	0	2	2	0	3	9	1	0	2	2	1	0	22	2	0
Administration of justice	5	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	17	1	0
Traffic/Import of drugs	1	0	0	4	1	4	5	1	0	0	1	0	0	17	0	0
Possession of drugs	3	2	7	6	2	6	11	3	6	1	1	1	2	51	8	0
C.C. Motor vehicle offence	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	1	2	0	0	9	1	0
Impaired driving	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0
Forgery/Uttering	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
Criminal negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uttering threats	2	0	3	6	11	4	14	9	7	8	2	2	0	68	0	0
Conspiracy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Peace Bond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breach of probation/Order variation	23	3	2	46	57	4	32	39	40	71	22	12	30	381	0	0
Y.O.A. Transfer	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Y.O.A. Review	4	0	2	1	5	1	3	1	6	4	4	1	8	40	0	0
Appeal	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0
Other	0	2	2	4	8	11	19	1	7	4	3	3	6	70	28	29
Criminal Young Offender Total	85	17	56	151	290	116	392	161	136	217	104	103	88	1,916	218	47

Number of Matters Completed

From April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000

Full Service Matters	AM	AR	AT	BW	DR	Hfx North	Hfx South	KE	NG	SY	TR	WI	YA	Staff Total	Private Lawyer	Dal
Provincial																
Wildlife Act	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2		
Motor Vehicle Act	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	1	9		
Liquor Control Act	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	1	2	3	2	0	16		
Appeal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Other	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	7		
Provincial Total	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	10	2	6	3	7	3	34	0	0
Family																
Separation	11	53	20	67	41	13	47	30	59	63	39	22	50	515	21	3
Divorce	5	31	58	34	37	32	21	18	44	65	40	9	23	417	48	11
Custody	46	52	39	32	125	116	89	63	71	47	54	28	45	807	237	16
Children & Family Services	7	16	18	23	39	63	36	21	27	47	13	8	23	341	317	12
Enforcement	0	0	3	2	5	11	0	2	4	7	3	0	2	39	13	0
Application to vary	38	20	41	84	45	52	41	57	62	145	29	4	64	682	253	2
Family maintenance	7	19	111	86	75	53	51	69	86	145	68	8	36	814	120	14
Matrimonial property	0	0	7	4	6	1	1	2	5	15	12	3	0	56	10	1
Access	3	5	22	15	23	46	22	24	30	25	24	9	31	279	154	9
Paternity	0	0	2	6	5	5	0	13	6	5	2	0	3	47	20	2
Appeal	0	1	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	9	15	2
Other	0	0	6	1	4	5	10	0	7	10	8	2	5	58	218	10
Family Total	117	197	328	354	407	398	318	300	402	575	293	93	282	4,064	1,426	82
Civil																
Litigation	0	0	2	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	1	80
Non-litigation	0	0	3	0	1	7	0	1	0	3	0	12	0	27	2	9
Admin. Tribunal	6	0	6	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42		0
Immigration	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		0
Review Board	0	0	0	0	11	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	15		0
Adult Protection	0	0	0	0	9	8	5	0	1	4	0	0	0	27	11	0
Appeal	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		1
Other	6	6	5	2	0	3	0	2	2	9	3	3	9	50	1	37
Civil Total	13	7	16	3	24	55	5	3	3	16	4	15	10	174	15	127
Grand Total	444	530	596	870	1,733	1,167	1,801	883	914	1,648	761	583	579	12,509	2,548	256

Certificates Completed by Private Lawyers

From April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000

Office	Criminal Adult	Criminal Y. O.	Provincial	Family	Civil	Total	%
Amherst	38	16	0	57	0	111	4.4%
Annapolis Royal	11	0	0	24	0	35	1.4%
Antigonish	29	2	0	70	0	101	4.0%
Bridgewater	31	10	0	65	1	107	4.2%
Dartmouth	183	54	0	152	7	396	15.5%
Halifax North	51	9	0	156	3	219	8.6%
Halifax South	126	36	0	84	1	247	9.7%
Kentville	35	0	0	43	0	78	3.1%
New Glasgow	46	1	0	85	0	132	5.2%
Sydney	185	53	0	475	2	715	28.1%
Truro	54	0	0	75	0	129	5.1%
Windsor	34	9	0	45	1	89	3.5%
Yarmouth	66	28	0	95	0	189	7.4%
Total	**889**	**218**	**0**	**1,426**	**15**	**2,548**	**100.0%**
Percent	**34.9%**	**8.6%**	**0.0%**	**56.0%**	**0.6%**	**100.0%**	

TELEPHONE DUTY COUNSEL APRIL 1, 1999 TO MARCH 31, 2000				
Month	**Criminal Adult**	**Criminal Young Offender**	**Unknown**	**Total**
April	216	29	20	265
May	247	40	25	312
June	194	33	23	250
July	315	29	14	358
August	266	34	1	301
September	235	26	1	262
October	225	31	0	256
November	194	39	1	234
December	210	23	1	234
January	157	30	0	187
February	203	24	3	230
March	195	40	4	239
TOTALS	2657	378	93	**3128**

RECIPROCALS APRIL 1, 1999 TO MARCH 31, 2000						
Province	1999/2000			1998/1999		
	Outgoing	Incoming	Total	Outgoing	Incoming	Total
Alberta	7	10	17	9	8	17
British Columbia	8	9	17	9	7	16
Manitoba	2	3	5	3	4	7
New Brunswick	2	3	5	16	7	23
Newfoundland	7	4	11	13	11	24
Northwest Territories	3	1	4	0	1	1
Ontario	34	32	66	44	18	62
Prince Edward Island	3	0	3	2	1	3
Quebec	11	4	15	9	6	15
Saskatchewan	4	1	5	2	2	4
Yukon	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outside Canada	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	81	67	148	107	66	173

Applications Received by Method of Service

From April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000 with Comparative

Disposition	1999/2000	1998/1999	Change	
Full Service				
Staff Lawyers	12,567	12,074	493	4.1%
Private Lawyers	2,658	2,921	(263)	-9.0%
Dalhousie Legal Aid	256	224	32	14.3%
Full Service	**15,481**	**15,219**	**262**	**1.7%**
Summary Service				
Reciprocal - Outgoing	63	107	(44)	-41.1%
Staff Duty Counsel	273	187	86	46.0%
Cells Duty Counsel	1,117	1,046	71	6.8%
Telephone Duty Counsel	3,128	3,091	37	1.2%
Advice	1,523	1,635	(112)	-6.9%
Summary Service	**6,104**	**6,066**	**38**	**0.6%**
Accepted Applications	**21,585**	**21,285**	**300**	**1.4%**
Rejected Applications	**2,160**	**1,999**	**161**	**8.1%**
Pending Decision	**258**	**203**	**55**	**27.1%**
Grand Total	**24,003**	**23,487**	**516**	**2.2%**

Applications Received by Area of Law

From April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000

Disposition	Criminal Adult	Criminal Y. O.	Provincial	Family	Civil	Total	%
Full Service							
Staff Lawyers	6,576	1,978	29	3,783	201	12,567	52.4%
Private Lawyers	883	232	0	1,530	13	2,658	11.1%
Dalhousie Legal Aid	0	47	0	82	127	256	1.1%
Full Service	**7,459**	**2,257**	**29**	**5,395**	**341**	**15,481**	**64.5%**
Summary Service							
Reciprocal - Outgoing	4	1	0	57	1	63	0.3%
Staff Duty Counsel	234	28	1	10	0	273	1.1%
Cells Duty Counsel	1,057	60	0	0	0	1,117	4.7%
Telephone Duty Counsel	2,750	378	0	0	0	3,128	13.0%
Advice	409	51	33	875	155	1,523	6.3%
Summary Service	**4,454**	**518**	**34**	**942**	**156**	**6,104**	**25.4%**
Accepted Applications	**11,913**	**2,775**	**63**	**6,337**	**497**	**21,585**	**89.9%**
Rejected Applications	**737**	**32**	**64**	**1,138**	**189**	**2,160**	**9.0%**
Pending Decision	**62**	**6**	**1**	**188**	**1**	**258**	**1.1%**
Grand Total	**12,712**	**2,813**	**128**	**7,663**	**687**	**24,003**	**100.0%**
Percent	**53.0%**	**11.7%**	**0.5%**	**31.9%**	**2.9%**	**100.0%**	

NOVA SCOTIA Office of the Auditor General

1888 Brunswick Street
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Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3J8

Bus: 902 424-5907
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E-mail:

Our File Number:

October 6, 2000

Mr. T. Gerard Lukeman
Executive Director
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Suite 401
5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3T2

OCT 12 2000

Dear Mr. Lukeman:

We have completed our audit of the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission. The objective of our audit was to obtain sufficient evidence to express an opinion on the financial statements of the Commission.

Based on the results of our audit, it is our opinion that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Commission as at March 31, 2000 and the result of its operations and cash flow for the year then ended.

Enclosed with this letter are seven copies of the Commission's financial statements with our Auditor's Report attached. Please have each of the statements signed by members of the Commission, send one bound copy to the Minister, one unbound copy to the Department of Finance (Director of Accounting & Financial Services), and return the remaining unbound copy to our office.

We appreciate the cooperation extended by Commission staff during our audit. If you wish to further discuss our audit or any other matter, we would be pleased to meet with you.

Sincerely,

Alan D. Horgan, CA
Assistant Auditor General

c. Mr. Glen McDougall
Chair
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission

Mr. David Slaunwhite
Administrator
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2000

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2000

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AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister of Justice; and
To the Chair and Members of the
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission

I have audited the balance sheet of the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission as at March 31, 2000, and the statements of revenues, expenses and equity, and cash flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission as at March 31, 2000 and the results of its operations and cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

E.R. Salmon

E.R. Salmon, F.C.A.
Auditor General

Halifax, Nova Scotia
July 13, 2000

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT MARCH 31, 2000

ASSETS

	2000	1999 (Restated - Note 3)
Current		
Cash	$ 262,940	$ 738,167
Investments (Note 4)	2,552,723	1,449,883
Receivables	74,757	126,898
Prepaid expenses	38,160	35,181
	2,928,580	2,350,129
Trust Fund - long service awards (Note 5)	1,065,156	822,455
Capital Assets (Note 6)	93,538	89,638
	$ 4,087,274	$ 3,262,222

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current		
Accounts payable and accruals (Notes 7 and 8)	$ 1,266,522	$ 1,119,287
Current portion of obligation under capital lease (Note 9)	17,449	14,715
Deferred contribution - special case (Note 10)	202,406	-
	1,486,377	1,134,002
Long-term		
Accrued vacation	-	21,498
Early retirement incentive program (Note 11)	174,022	167,716
Long service awards (Note 12)	1,065,156	822,455
Obligation under capital lease (Note 9)	12,738	29,531
	1,251,916	1,041,200
Deferred Contributions - capital assets (Note 13)	292,936	349,111
Equity		
Operating equity (Note 14)	992,694	692,518
Equity in capital assets	63,351	45,391
	1,056,045	737,909
	$ 4,087,274	$ 3,262,222

Commitments and contingencies (Note 14)

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Member

Member

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

	2000	1999 (Restated - Note 3)
Revenues		
Grants - Province of Nova Scotia	$11,263,174	$10,737,889
Interest	159,461	166,867
Other income	12,820	45,053
	11,435,455	10,949,809
Expenses (Schedule I)		
Amortization	42,143	20,660
Capital lease interest	5,068	1,485
Directors' fees	37,584	47,985
Equipment and maintenance	69,377	63,854
Library	142,742	127,316
Membership, meetings and conferences	206,993	194,369
Office disbursements	229,374	215,543
Private solicitors' fees (Note 8)	1,838,818	1,977,313
Professional and other fees	164,067	129,812
Salaries and benefits	7,269,570	7,018,419
Supplies and services	839,910	895,712
Travel	271,673	266,340
	11,117,319	10,958,808
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses before special case	318,136	(8,999)
Special Case (Note 10)		
Contribution from the Province of Nova Scotia	197,594	-
Contribution from client	11,282	-
	208,876	-
Expenses, special case	208,876	-
	-	-
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses	318,136	(8,999)
Equity, as previously reported	737,909	707,557
Restatement of prior years' expenditures (Note 3)	-	39,351
As restated	737,909	746,908
Equity, end of year	$ 1,056,045	$ 737,909

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

	2000	1999
Cash inflow (outflow) from the following activities:		
Operating:		
Excess (deficit) from operations	$ 318,136	$ (8,999)
Amortization	42,143	20,660
Changes in receivables, payables and other items	327,436	251,869
	687,715	263,530
Investing:		
Investing	(1,102,840)	733,665
Fixed assets acquisitions	(46,043)	(70,946)
	(1,148,883)	662,719
Financing:		
Capital leases	(14,059)	44,246
Net cash inflow (outflow)	(475,227)	970,495
Cash position, beginning of year	738,167	(232,328)
Cash position, end of year	$ 262,940	$ 738,167

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2000

1. Authority

The Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission was established in 1977 pursuant to the Legal Aid Act. The Act and Regulations stipulate that the Commission can provide legal services to persons whose income is derived primarily from municipal or provincial social assistance or to persons in an equivalent position.

Commission activities are funded by a grant from the Province of Nova Scotia. The Province in turn receives a contribution from the Government of Canada for legal aid provided by the Commission.

2. Accounting Policies

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Significant accounting policies are summarized as follows:

Revenue

Operating grants are recorded on the accrual basis.

Contributions from the Province of Nova Scotia for the acquisition of capital assets are recorded as deferred contributions and are amortized to revenue in accordance with the amortization schedule for each capital asset acquired.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are stated at cost and are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives:

Computer equipment	33.33% per year
Leasehold improvements	Over term of lease
Equipment under capital lease	33.33% per year

Special Cases

Periodically, the Commission provides legal services to clients upon special request from the Department of Justice where the clients would not otherwise be eligible under the Commission's guidelines. Contributions and expenses related to these special cases are presented separately on the statement of revenues, expenses and equity.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2000

3. Change in Accounting Policy

The Commission changed its method of accounting for capital assets from expensing them when purchased to that of capitalizing fixed assets and amortizing them over their estimated useful lives. The change in accounting policy has been applied retroactively and the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 1999 have been restated. The impact of the accounting policy change on the March 31, 1999 balance sheet is to record net capital assets of $89,638, capital lease obligations of $44,246 and equity in capital assets of $45,391. The impact on the statement of revenues, expenses and equity for the year ended March 31, 1999 is to record amortization expense of $20,660, capital interest expense of $1,485 and decrease equipment and maintenance and leasehold improvements by $28,185. Equity at the beginning of the year increased by $39,351 to record prior years' equity in capital assets.

Certain other 1999 figures have been reclassified to conform with the presentation adopted for the 2000 financial statements.

4. Investments

Investments consist of banker acceptance notes and are valued at cost, which approximates market value.

5. Trust Fund - Long Service Awards

The Commission follows the provisions of the Civil Service Act with respect to the payment of long service awards to retiring employees. The Commission is responsible for the funding and eventual payment of these awards.

The Commission maintains a trust fund to provide for the eventual payment of awards and to administer long service award advances. The Commission provides contributions, from general operating funds, to defray future obligations for long service awards.

In prior years, employees with 15 years of employment could apply for an advance on their long service award. Advances are repayable upon retirement or termination, together with interest at the provincial borrowing rate which existed at the time of the advance. As at March 31, 2000 six employees have received advances. Advances plus accrued interest at March 31, 2000 totalled $143,469 (1999 - $146,832).

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2000

5. Trust Fund - Long Service Awards (Continued)

	2000	1999
Balance, beginning of year	$ 822,455	$ 670,445
Add: Contribution from operating funds	207,415	117,893
Interest on long service award advances	8,837	8,945
Interest on investments	29,635	26,052
	245,887	152,890
Less: Long service awards paid to retiring employees	3,186	880
Balance, end of year	$ 1,065,156	$ 822,455
Consisting of:		
Cash	$ 695	$ 439
Investments and accrued interest on investments (see Note 4)	772,385	612,197
Receivable - long service award advances and accrued interest on advances	143,469	146,832
Contribution due from operating funds	148,607	62,987
	$ 1,065,156	$ 822,455

6. Capital Assets

Assets	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value March 31, 2000	Net Book Value March 31, 1999
Computer equipment	$ 79,997	$ 32,405	$ 47,592	$ 17,787
Leasehold improvements	49,225	32,273	16,952	27,248
Equipment under capital lease	50,124	21,130	28,994	44,603
	$ 179,346	$ 85,808	$ 93,538	$ 89,638

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2000

7. Accounts Payable and Accruals

	2000	1999
Supplies and services	$ 241,703	$ 172,096
Accrued private solicitors' fees (see Note 8)	798,297	819,937
Employee salaries and benefits	226,522	127,254
	$ 1,266,522	$ 1,119,287

8. Measurement Uncertainty

Measurement uncertainty is uncertainty in the determination of the amount at which an item is recognized in the financial statements. This exists when there is a variance between the recorded amount and another reasonably possible amount.

Measurement uncertainty in these financial statements is inherent in the recording of accrued private solicitors' fees. At the end of each fiscal year the Commission has a liability for work conducted by private solicitors that is not yet billed and paid. At March 31, 2000, a liability of $798,297 (1999 - $819,937) was recorded, of which $635,619 (1999 - $658,636) was estimated using a system that incorporates average costs and time frames for similar cases over the last two years. The estimate will vary from the eventual billings from private solicitors due to the specific requirements of each case.

9. Obligation Under Capital Lease

	2000	1999
Blended monthly payments totalling $1,675 for computer equipment leases, with varying expiry dates to April 2002	$ 33,819	$ 52,748
Less: amount representing interest (average rate 15.5%)	(3,632)	(8,502)
	30,187	44,246
Less: current portion	(17,449)	(14,715)
Long term portion	$ 12,738	$ 29,531

The future minimum lease payments under capital lease obligations are as follows:

2000/2001	$ 20,103
2001/2002	13,716
	33,819
Less interest portion	(3,632)
	$ 30,187

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2000

10. Special Case

During the year ended March 31, 2000, the Commission provided legal services for a client upon a special request from the Department of Justice. All funding received from the Province of Nova Scotia for the case is restricted solely for expenditures incurred in the process of defending the accused. Any funding not committed at the conclusion of the case must be returned to the Province of Nova Scotia.

At March 31, 2000, the Commission was holding $202,406 in deferred contributions from the Province of Nova Scotia for future expenses relating to the special case.

11. Early Retirement Incentive Program

The Commission participated in an Early Retirement Incentive Program offered by the Province of Nova Scotia to crown agencies. A liability in the amount of $186,615 (1999 - $180,007) has been accrued as of March 31, 2000. This amount represents management's best estimate of the present value of the future payments required under the Program. Of the total liability, $12,593 (1999 - $12,291) has been classified on the balance sheet as current and $174,022 (1999 - $167,716) has been classified as long-term.

Eligibility for the Program ended on March 31, 1998.

12. Long Service Awards

Employees of the Commission are entitled to long service awards upon retirement. The awards are based on the number of years of service of the employee, and are earned at the rate of one week's pay for every year of service, to a maximum of 26 weeks.

In 2000, the Commission engaged an outside consultant to estimate the liability relating to the awards. Based on the estimate of the present value of obligations respecting long service awards at March 31, 2000, the long service award trust funds of $1,065,156 (1999 - $822,455) are sufficient to fund the liability.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2000

13. Deferred Contributions - Capital Assets

In 1999 the Province of Nova Scotia contributed $353,000 to the Commission to offset anticipated costs of upgrading the Commission's computer systems. The changes in the deferred contributions balance for the period are as follows:

	2000	1999
Balance, beginning of year	$ 349,111	$ 353,000
Less: amounts amortized to revenue	(56,175)	(3,889)
Balance, end of year	$ 292,936	$ 349,111

14. Commitments and Contingencies

a. The Commission assigns cases to private solicitors where a conflict of interest arises, or when choice of counsel is elected by the client in certain criminal cases. The Commission estimates that in addition to the $798,297 liability for private solicitor's fees reflected in the financial statements, a further expenditure after March 31, 2000 of approximately $443,224 may be required to complete these cases.

The operating equity of the Commission is committed to fund the eventual completion of private solicitor cases outstanding at year end.

b. The Commission has entered into lease agreements for eleven of its offices. The remaining two offices do not have formal lease agreements. Lease agreements typically call for payment of a base rent plus a provision for the Commission's portion of operating costs and property taxes. Lease terms vary by office.

Minimum lease payments for signed lease agreements for the next five years, not including operating costs and taxes, are as follows:

2000/2001	$ 389,040
2001/2002	$ 145,785
2002/2003	$ 97,848
2003/2004	$ 90,120
2004/2005	$ 90,120

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14. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

c. The Commission provides funding to Dalhousie Legal Aid Services. The Commission has agreed to provide up to $208,000 to Dalhousie Legal Aid Services for the year ending March 31, 2001.

15. Client Trust Funds

On March 31, 2000, $12,537 (1999 - $1,726) was held in trust for clients. These trust funds are accounted for separately and are not reflected in the financial statements.

16. Pensions

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Legal Aid Act, all permanent employees of the Commission are entitled to receive pension benefits under the Province of Nova Scotia Public Service Superannuation Act. The plan is funded by equal employee and employer contributions. The employer contributions are included in the Commission's operating expenses. The Commission is not responsible for any unfunded liability with respect to the superannuation fund.

SCHEDULE I

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

	2000		1999 (Restated - Note 3)
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Amortization	$ -	$ 42,143	$ 20,660
Capital lease interest	-	5,068	1,485
Directors' fees	63,400	37,584	47,985
Equipment and maintenance			
Office furniture and equipment	59,300	20,080	22,551
Office machine leasing	48,000	19,440	20,209
Office machine maintenance	41,700	29,857	21,094
	149,000	69,377	63,854
Library	130,000	142,742	127,316
Membership, meetings and conferences			
Membership and dues	160,800	136,549	143,063
Meetings and conferences	60,000	70,444	51,306
	220,800	206,993	194,369
Office disbursements			
Civil and Family	242,000	93,023	105,781
Criminal	80,000	119,953	102,391
Young Offender	10,000	16,398	7,371
	332,000	229,374	215,543
Private solicitors' fees			
Civil and Family - conflicts	1,083,453	984,066	1,162,040
Criminal - choice of counsel	200,000	202,607	203,181
Criminal - conflicts	481,271	504,588	499,389
Young Offender - conflicts	107,276	147,557	112,703
	1,872,000	1,838,818	1,977,313
Professional and other fees			
Professional fees	147,500	126,853	118,213
Consultants fees	-	37,214	11,599
	147,500	164,067	129,812
Salaries and benefits	7,332,100	7,269,570	7,018,419
Supplies and services			
General cleaning and office expense	59,500	55,097	46,912
Heat, light and water	25,000	26,869	18,718
Miscellaneous	-	3,272	2,607
Printing and stationery	80,000	71,018	80,703
Rent, insurance and taxes	545,000	514,005	525,077
Telephone and postage	245,000	169,649	221,695
	954,500	839,910	895,712
Travel	244,200	271,673	266,340
	$ 11,445,500	$ 11,117,319	$ 10,958,808

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Advice - Legal counsel provided to people who require only legal advice but no further legal service.

AM - Amherst Office

Applications Pending Decision as to Service - Applications for Legal Aid received in the fiscal year for which a decision has yet to be made.

Applications Received by Method of Service - Applications for Legal Aid received in the fiscal year and how those applications were dealt with.

AR - Annapolis Royal Office

AT - Antigonish Office

BW - Bridgewater Office

Cells Duty Counsel - Legal representation provided on a contract basis by a private lawyer at the Halifax Provincial Court, Spring Garden Road. This representation is provided to only those individuals detained in cells.

Certificate - Contract entered into between the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission and a private lawyer to provide legal representation to clients who qualify for Legal Aid services but cannot be represented by the local Nova Scotia Legal Aid Office due to conflicts of interest. Nova Scotia Legal Aid continues to give individuals charged with offences punishable by mandatory life imprisonment (murder) a choice of defence counsel and this results in Certificates being issued to private lawyers as well.

Dalhousie Legal Aid Service - An organization which receives a significant portion of its funding from the budget of the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission. The Dalhousie Legal Aid Service primarily provides services to its clients through Dalhousie Law School students who are supervised by lawyers on staff with the Dalhousie Legal Aid Service.

DR - Dartmouth Office

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Full Service - Full Service matters are all those matters which require a higher commitment of legal resources than can be serviced as a Summary Service.

Hfx North - Halifax Agricola Street Office

Hfx-South - Halifax Spring Garden Road Office

KE - Kentville Office

NG - New Glasgow Office

Matters Completed - Cases which concluded in the fiscal year.

Private Lawyers - Members of the private Bar representing clients by way of a Nova Scotia Legal Aid Certificate.

Reciprocal - Outgoing - An application for Legal Aid which is forwarded to another province where the Nova Scotia resident requires legal representation. All provinces and territories by agreement participate in this exchange of applications for Legal Aid.

Rejected Applications - Applicants for Nova Scotia Legal Aid who were not provided with service due to financial ineligibility, lack of merit, or the service requested was outside of the scope of service.

Staff Lawyers - Lawyers employed by the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission.

Staff Duty Counsel - Lawyers employed by the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission who provide legal representation, either by telephone or in person, to people detained in the Provincial Court Cells or at a police station.

Summary Service - Summary Service matters are those matters which require a lesser commitment of legal resources and are serviced through the following methods: Reciprocal - Outgoing, Staff Duty Counsel, Cells Duty Counsel, Telephone Duty Counsel or Advice.